



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/901,985

07/10/2001

Shigeo Sakaba

JP920000225US1

7943

36491

7590

06/04/2004

KUNZLER & ASSOCIATES

8 EAST BROADWAY

SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111

EXAMINER

HUYNH, KIM T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2112

DATE MAILED: 06/04/2004

5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/901,985

Applicant(s)

SAKABA ET AL.

Examiner

Kim T. Huynh

Art Unit

2112

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,5,8,10-13 and 15-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,6,7,9 and 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 July 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 4-5, 8, 10-13, 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Saegusa (US Patent 6,038,681)

As per claims 1, 5, 8, Saegusa discloses a computer system in which a plurality of host computers and a plurality of other devices are interconnected by SCSI comprising:

- Means for, when one of said host computers (fig.1, 2, 3) has a device ID identical to a device ID of one of said other device, and (col.1, lines 57-61)
- a terminal power of said one of said host computers is active, (col.2, lines 36-53), wherein connected implies active)
- inputting a reset signal to a SCSI control bus reset input of said one of said other devices. (col.4, lines 1-21)

As per claims 4, 10, Saegusa discloses wherein said other devices comprise hard disk drives. (fig.1, 21-22)

As per claims 11, Saegusa discloses the method further comprising said one of said other devices disengaging from the bus interface upon receiving the reset signal. (col.4, lines 1-21)

As per claims 12, 17, Saegusa discloses wherein the device is selected from the list consisting of hard-disk drives, CD_ROM drives, WORM drives, and Bernoulli Drives. (col.4, lines 48-53)

As per claim 13, Saegusa discloses a system for controlling a bus interface conforming to the SCSI standard and to which a plurality of host computers and other devices are connected, the system comprising:

- A first host computer operating on a bus interface conforming to the SCSI standard and having a first device ID; (col.3, lines 43-64)
- A host power terminal configured to provide power to the first host computer; (col.2, lines 36-53), wherein connected implies active)
- A device having a second device ID, the device configured to receive a reset signal and thereby disengage from the bus interface; and (col.4, lines 1-21)
- A conflict resolution module configured to provide a reset signal to the device having a second device ID upon receiving notice of a conflict between the first device ID and the second device ID and after determining that the first host computer is receiving power from the host power terminal. (col.4, lines 1-21), (col.1, lines 52-61)

As per claim 15, Saegusa discloses wherein the conflict resolution module is operably connected to the host power terminal. (col.1,lines 52-61)

As per claim 16, Saegusa discloses wherein the conflict resolution module is configured to activate the reset signal when the host computer is in a powered state. (col.4, lines 1-21)

As per claim 18, Saegusa discloses the system further comprising a second host computer operating on the bus interface conforming to the SCSI standard and having a third device ID, the second host computer being connected to the bus interface subsequent to the first host computer. (col.3, lines 43-64)

CLAIMS OBJECTION

3. Claims 2-3, 6-7, 9, 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Prior art does not teach or suggest wherein said reset signal inutting means comprises an AND gate receiving at least said terminal power of said one of said host computers, and an OR gate having a first input receiving the output of said AND gate, and a second input receiving a reset signal of a SCSI bus.

Response to Amendment

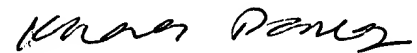
4. Applicant's arguments filed on 3/19/04 have been considered but are deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim Huynh whose telephone number is (703)305-5384 or via e-mail addressed to [kim.huynh3@uspto.gov]. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM- 6:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (703) 305-4815 or via e-mail addressed to [mark.rinehart@uspto.gov]. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)306-5631.



Kim Huynh

May 24, 2004

Khanh Dang
Primary Examiner